

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

WHAT HAPPENED AND HAPPENING.

Miss Dollie West took up her school near Martinsburg last week.

Joe Williams, Jr., of this city has been quite sick with typhoid fever.

Horace Mundy shipped in a car of fine lambs last week, bought in Illinois.

Miss Edna Lewis of Martinsburg is in Colorado for the benefit of her health.

Prof. S. L. Mapes took up his duties as principal of the Martinsburg schools this week.

Miss Anna L. Miller of near Rush Hill will teach near Jacksonville, Randolph county, next winter.

Francis Offutt while working in the shoe factory last week was seriously injured by an accidental knife cut in the arm.

Mrs. Annie Cannell of this city has bought a stock of merchandise at Hutton, Callaway county, and will move thither to take charge next month.

Charlie Casper of Rush Hill sold 12 fat steers in St. Louis last week at \$5.50 which averaged 935 lbs.; another drove of 24 steers at \$6.35 which weighed 1,307 lbs. average.

Joseph Lewis near Nadine sold his 40 acre farm to Benjamin Peyton for \$2,000 and bought five acres adjoining Vandalia and is putting up a nice residence thereon.

Mesdams J. A. Guthrie, H. P. Warden, S. P. Eumons and Miss Lillie Allison are soliciting funds to pay the salary of Miss Grimshaw who is matron of the Rest Room in the Mexico court house.

Prof. A. S. Faulkner changes the address for his MESSAGE from Wellsville, Mo., to Hugo, I. T. Mr. Faulkner will be principal of the Hugo public schools thru the coming year.

Lightning struck a big ash tree in Thurston Duncan's yard last Thursday night and splintered it into firewood. The thunder waked every nervous person in town—it was a big noise and a hard hit.

Mitchell White, associate editor of the Ledger of this city, has gone to Colorado for his health, account of a throat trouble. While out there he will have a position with the Denver Post. Mitchell is a good boy—a useful fellow—and we hope he may be retored to good health.

Thurston Elliott of this city is home from a three months' stay in and about Tulsa, I. T. His son Ben remained down there. Thurston says it has been very dry in the Territory. Hot, too. Last Sunday week the thermometer stood 114 in the shade. Mr. Elliott says he is satisfied to remain in Missouri.

Powell & Mundy of this county broke the live stock record in St. Louis last week. They had on the market 23 head of cattle which averaged 1,337 pounds each, and which sold at \$6.75. The receipt for the car was \$2,025.33, the highest amount, it is said, that was ever paid for a car of cattle at the National Stock Yards.

MOONSHINE.

B. W. Hale Writes of Some Superstitions.

The Ruralist, published at Sedalia, contained the following article last week written by B. W. Hale of this county:

Shakespeare wrote one epigram that would have made his name famous if he had never written another word when he put into the mouth of Puck (the fairy who was forever playing pranks on people) the words—"What fools these mortals be."

Not that I believe that all mortals are fools but it is a fact that most of us have inherited beliefs and superstitions that have been handed down to us thru ages and ages by some savage ancestor who roamed the forests of what is now Germany. But what has this to do with my subject?

Now, there are various kinds of moonshine, but I do not intend to write about the kind that poets and lovers rave about. Neither do I intend to touch upon the liquid kind that grows in the mountains of Kentucky and Tennessee and gives our "infernal revenoo" of floors so much trouble.

But as I hinted in the beginning, I am going to say something about the superstitious beliefs that all the light of Christianity and all the teachings of all the wise men thru all the ages have not succeeded in stamping out.

How many readers of The Ruralist plant their beans, their potatoes, their cucumbers, etc., in the moon? How many of you are afraid to start any important work on Friday, or are sure if you start on a journey on Friday that you will never return? How many of you would faint with fright if you should discover you had been one of thirteen at a dinner table? And then you know if you see a black cat or the dog howls at night or you dream of wreaths of white roses "there is to be a death in the family," or a wedding—which is it? If a rabbit runs across the road in front of you, you will have bad luck. And the only way to keep away all "hoodoos" is to wear constantly about your person the left hind leg of a rabbit that has been caught in a graveyard at midnight in the dark of the moon.

It has not been very long ago that dozens of feeble old women and beautiful and innocent young girls have been burned at the stake for riding thru the air on broomsticks.

But probably the silliest of all beliefs is the practice of planting each particular kind of seed during a certain phase of the moon or when the "sign is right." I remember one old neighbor we had years ago who always had to plant his potatoes on Good Friday. One year he made his preparations the day before and that night there was a soaking rain and it continued to rain all day the next day, but the old man donned his rubber boots and took his umbrella and patiently waded up and down dropping and covering his potatoes. It had to be done or there would be no potatoes. He got them planted all right and the next summer harvested the finest and largest crop of cloids in that whole country but no potatoes. This story may sound "fishy" but is true. Then some seeds must be planted in the dark of the moon while others will all run to vine if planted when the moon is in its full glory and lovers are sighing and poets are raving.

There are a great many more people who believe in "signs" than any one would suppose. They believe that if you wear your calves when the sign is in the heart they will grieve and bawl themselves to death. And as for castrating calves, pigs or colts the sign must be right or the animal will die. And very frequently yet we hear of cows dying of "holler horn" or "wolf-in-the-tail."

Quite a number of years ago when I was somewhat younger and possibly a little more verdant than I am even now, I had a fine cow to get sick. I called in an old neighbor who had quite a reputation as a "cow doctor." The cow was down and seemed to be suffering with fever. The "doctor" promptly diagnosed the case as one of "wolves" and said the proper remedy would be to split open the end of her tail and fill it with salt and pepper. Well, to tell the truth I was somewhat skeptical but as I said before I was young and had always been taught to respect the wisdom of old age, so the remedy was applied. But it seemed to have very little effect on the "wolves," at any rate I saw none come out of her tail and in a few hours she died. In the light of subsequent knowledge and experience I have decided that the cow died of plain milk fever.

I might go on and enumerate other beliefs and superstitions that are purely "moonshine" but space forbids. It is sufficient to close by saying that the mission of The Ruralist is to help drive out ignorance and superstition and preach the gospel of pure seed in a well prepared soil and pure bred stock on a properly balanced ration as the salvation of Missouri agriculture.

Loves to Plow.

Guess the boy described below is an Audrain boy. His letter is found in the St. Louis Journal of Agriculture:

Dear Editor and Young People: Will you allow another stranger to enter your happy band? This is my first letter to the Journal, which we take and like very much. I am a boy 13 years old, five feet three inches tall, and weigh 105 pounds. I have black hair, black eyes, and complexion.

As I have described myself I will now tell where I live. I live about nine miles northeast of Auxvasse on a 120-acre farm. We have ten head of cattle, nineteen head of hogs, two horses, one mule, twenty-nine head of sheep and nineteen lambs. We also have about 70 little chickens. We did not put in any oats this year, but we are going to raise some corn. How many boys like to plow corn? I do, for one! Well, I must close, and if I see my letter published I will write again. So good-bye.

JOHN ROBERTSON,
R. F. D. No. 2, Auxvasse, Mo.

There is a stockman's and farmer's paper published over at Sedalia called "The Ruralist" which we would like to see go into every farm home in Audrain county. The paper is worth while, it is a good one. The MESSAGE and "The Ruralist" both for one year for only \$1.30, cash in advance. We club with but few papers, but, as we have said, The Ruralist is worth while.

One of Vandalia's Romeo's was out driving with a young lady of Laddonia one night last week, says the Herald, and he thought she looked sweet enough to eat, in fact he just thought he would eat her. He is now doctoring several wounds, the result of being punctured with a hat pin. They are not so easy, are they, Leland?

Lightning struck the residence of F. E. Jesse in this city one day last week. Roof slightly damaged.

GOES TO JAIL.

Caught Pullets—About To Pullets Head Off.

Early last Thursday morning, remarks the Louisiana Press, Mrs. Laura Birkhead received a mental telepathic message from her inner consciousness stating that she had better investigate the state of affairs in the family chicken coop. She responded to the call and found a negro woman named Ella Johnson with a well developed pullet under her arm and she was just starting to pullets head off.

Miss Johnson was considerably startled but she was equal to the exigencies of the occasion. She told Mrs. Birkhead that she had been sent to David Wald's residence and she took a short cut through the alley and saw the chicken making escape from the coop and she threw a brick at it and stopped it and was going to restore it to its owner.

Mrs. Birkhead by a little strategy got the woman into the house and telephoned to Constable Tumulty, who went up and arrested her.

Miss Johnson also goes by the name of Anne West. She was arraigned before Justice Armstrong and sentenced to go west as far as Bowling Green jail.

If the offense had been committed before seven a. m. she would have gone to the penitentiary.

Mrs. Shelton Dead.

Mrs. M. J. Shelton died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Thos. Bratton, in Centralia last Thursday. Her death was the result of a stroke of paralysis, which she suffered a few years ago.

Deceased leaves the following children: Mrs. L. W. Stephens, of Boone county; Mrs. Barton Cox and Mrs. Thomas Bratton, of Centralia; Rev. Robert Shelton, of Garden City, Mo., and Mrs. Clay White, of Mexico.

Funeral service was held in Centralia, Friday, when the remains were brought to the Mexico cemetery for interment.

Many friends here extend sympathy to the bereaved ones.

Mrs. Gooch Dead.

Mrs. Gooch, wife of the late Rev. T. J. Gooch, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. T. Simmons, in Evansville, Ind., last week. The remains were shipped to Mexico for burial. Funeral was held at the Methodist church here Thursday afternoon conducted by Rev. J. O. Edmonston assisted by Rev. C. M. Aker. The pall bearers were P. M. Morris, J. W. Howell, W. W. Fry, A. B. Smith, A. K. Luckie and J. H. Lane.

Deceased was at one time a resident of Mexico, her husband for some years serving as pastor of the M. E. church, South, here.

Farber Forum: The patrons of the Farber school will be sorry to know that Miss Dollie Grigsby has sent in her resignation as teacher in the coming term. She was well liked by her pupils and will be greatly missed.

James Quinlan, northeast of Mexico, had his farm recorded under the new law, giving it the name of Walnut Grove Stock Farm. Jim Quinlan is a hustler, and he has one of the best farms in that neck of the woods.

Mrs. M. J. Clark, a sister of J. C. Ringo of this city, died at her home in Hannibal a few days ago. She was well known by many in Mexico. Two sons of Mrs. Clark, J. A. Clark and J. L. Clark, reside in Perry.

Gibbs Gentry of Hallsville was here last week on business with the Military Academy.

SURROUNDING AUDRAIN.

Alvin Hulse at Center was killed by a vicious horse a few days ago.

The new C. & A. depot at Louisiana is to be put on the site of the one burned recently. It will be a frame structure.

The Anti-Saloon League is to be organized in Louisiana. The organization, too, will be extended out over Pike county.

If you are going to the State University this year, get in at the opening; later it will cost you five dollars extra fee for registration.

Monroe county leads the State in the shipment of live poultry, her total for the year just closed being 9,860,702 pounds.

A special grand jury is to sit in Macon county to investigate the charge that members of the county text book commission were offered bribes as high as \$800 to adopt certain books.

A little child of Mr. and Mrs. Hick Hendricks of near Middletown died quite suddenly on Wednesday last, of blood poison caused by the absorption of material of an internal abscess.

A negro man in Montgomery is in jail on a penitentiary charge because, when he found a sum of money, he kept it and made use of it without trying to restore it to the owner.

The Burlington recently paid a fine of \$100 and the costs of the suit instituted last winter by Prosecuting Attorney Creech, of Lincoln county, for a failure to keep the Old Monroe depot properly heated and lighted.

A set of upper false teeth were found on the Stoutsville picnic grounds and the Banner thinks the owner is too modest to claim them. If, however, more than one claimant finally appears they will be divided equally among them.

Auxvasse Review: Mrs. A. K. Adams will leave next Tuesday in company with her father, for Amarilla, Texas, for the benefit of her health. Mrs. Adams has been a sufferer with asthma for several years and goes to Texas in hopes that she may get relief.

In Bowling Green a young man who applied for a marriage license found that a rival had just secured a license to marry the same girl. Not at all disconcerted he had his license filled out with the name of another girl. It was his day for getting married, he said, and he wasn't going to let anything interfere.

Perry Key, says the Paris Appeal wins the leather medal for the biggest income from one sheep. This ewe raised four lambs which brought \$5 per head and her head and her wool sold for \$2, making an income of \$22 from one sheep, and she is still doing business at the old stand.

David A. Ball of Pike county, modestly asserts that he can eat more roasting ears than any half dozen hungry horses in the State of Missouri. Dave is a candidate for Governor, you know, and can do most anything just now—even to showing his ugly face—if he can but attract attention.

An undersized young man is about the hottest thing in town just now, remarks the Wellsville Optic-News. The other day a woman entered the store where he is employed and asked him if any of the clerks were in. With dignity he replied that he was a clerk, but she only giggled. She consented to let him take her order, however, but as she left the store he heard her remark: "My, I'd like to have that little fellow for a stickpin."

Paris Appeal: The Mexico, Santa Fe & Perry Traction Company has filed a petition in the circuit court asking that Judge Eby

appoint a commission to inspect lands over which right-of-way arrangements have not been made and determine what damage the owner should have. Charles and Jennie Skarp, H. A. and Emma Newell, J. M. and Mamie Dull and Wm. and Sadie Esham are named as owners of these lands.

Arthur Candall, down in Pike, was loading wheat into a car on a sidetrack when a fast train came along. A young bay mare he was driving became greatly excited and reared and plunged and in a few minutes fell dead, literally scared to death.

Articles of incorporation have been granted to the Troy and Auburn Gravel Road Company. The County Court has given the necessary order granting them the right of way. Work on the road will begin at an early date. The road will extend from Troy to Auburn, thence to the north line of Lincoln County, about one mile south of Eolia. The road will be about twenty miles in length. The company is incorporated for \$40,000.

MADE HIM "GIT."

That Native Audrain County Judge In China.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 15.—Gus Baughman, for twenty years a boss gambler of Kansas City, later the owner of the biggest gambling house in the French quarter of Tien-Tsin, China, has returned to Missouri.

"Back to my Clay County farm for mine," Baughman said this morning. "When reform struck China I came home." The United States maintains consular courts in the Asiatic countries and punishes Americans who violate Federal laws.

"Judge Wilfley, of St. Louis, is Judge of the Consula Court," Baughman explained.

"Not long ago he concluded to clean out the sporting element in Tien-Tsin. He told Gus to get out of the country. I questioned his jurisdiction. He said you wait till I get through with you and you'll see what authority I have over you. Then I investigated and found that he was right so I came back to Missouri. I'm not going back to China."

Bit Mr. Bruton's Nose.

The clipping below is from the Bloomfield, Mo., Courier:

A man by the name of George Davenport went over to Scott county and filled up on bad whiskey and came to Bloomfield Monday evening with blood in his eyes. He first went into M. Joseph's store and accused him of taking a pair of pants and from there went to the Mercantile Store. There he met Clarence Bruton and began his drunken tirade and finally got hold of Mr. Bruton, who tried to defend himself. In the scuffle Davenport grabbed Mr. Bruton around the neck and drew him to him and grabbed his nose in his teeth and came near severing the member from his face. Mr. Bruton was terribly maimed. Dr. Evans was called, after cutting out the crushed bone sewed the member back. Davenport was arrested and placed in jail and will be prosecuted on a charge of mayhem. There was no difference between the parties and Mr. Bruton scarcely knew his assailant. His injury is both painful and severe and his friends and acquaintances regret exceedingly the misfortune. It is hoped the nose will grow back properly without marring his features. Mr. Bruton is an excellent gentleman and has charge of the dry goods department in the Bloomfield Mercantile Company's store.

Mrs. Frank Jesse and Mrs. Jan. Jesse spent a week recently at Harris Springs.

Mexico Savings Bank

Capital and Surplus, \$100,000.00

40th Year in Business

W. W. Fry, Pres.
W. J. Motte, V. Pres.